

Amendment No. 112 to SB7001

**Kurita
Signature of Sponsor**

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 7001*

House Bill No. 7001

by adding the following new section immediately preceding the last section and by renumbering the subsequent section accordingly:

SECTION _____. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3, Chapter 1, Chapter 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 3-1-118.

(a) The general assembly recognizes that the library and archives division of the office of the secretary of state currently records or causes to be recorded, audio of all house and senate floor sessions, all house and senate standing committee meetings, oversight meetings and some sub-committee meetings. The general assembly further recognizes that audio of those sub-committee meetings held in the legislative plaza which are not recorded by the office of the secretary of state are recorded or caused to be recorded by staff of the general assembly and provided to the division of library and archives in the office of the secretary of state. It is the intent of the general assembly that the secretary of state expand recording operations to fully record the proceedings of the general assembly and its committees and subcommittees.

(b) It is the public policy of Tennessee that the state's business should be conducted consistently with the fundamental principles of open government. To such end, it is also the public policy of Tennessee that all meetings of the general assembly, the senate, and the house of representatives, and each committee and subcommittee thereof, should be broadcast live to the citizens of this state utilizing the most appropriate, effective and suitable technologies available. By rule of the senate and

by rule of the house of representatives, the membership of each house shall adopt and implement policies to expeditiously achieve such overall goals in a manner consistent with principles of sound planning, the efficient use of taxpayer resources, and the citizens' fundamental right to monitor live the deliberations and decisions of the general assembly, the senate, the house of representatives, and each committee and subcommittee thereof. On or before December 1st each year until implementation is fully achieved, the chief clerk of the senate and the chief clerk of the house of representatives shall publish a written report detailing the manner and extent of legislative compliance with such principles and policies of open government.

(c) The general assembly recognizes that staff of the general assembly currently posts on the official Web site of the general assembly the final action votes taken on legislation by floor action, standing committees and sub-committees. It is the intent of the general assembly that this practice shall continue.

(d) The general assembly recognizes that instructions on finding final action votes on legislation for the house and senate, for standing committees and sub-committees is posted on the official general assembly web site. It is the intent of the general assembly that this practice shall continue. It is the further legislative intent that house and senate final action floor votes on legislation recorded by the electronic voting system shall be posted to the official general assembly web site in journal form or other appropriate form in a timely fashion, taking into consideration cross checks for accuracy that must be completed to ensure accuracy prior to such posting.

(e) The 104th general assembly must recognize that the appellate courts of Tennessee, in specifically considering the open meetings law,

have unequivocally ruled that Article II, Section 12 of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee prevents this or any other general assembly from statutorily binding a future general assembly on rules or proceedings. Therefore, this general assembly must truthfully acknowledge that the provisions of this section can be legally binding only for the duration of the 104th general assembly. However each future general assembly is strongly encouraged and vigorously urged to adopt rules or statutes incorporating provisions no less stringent than the provisions of this section.